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FORM**

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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number	10074,356
Filing Date	February 12, 2002
First Named Inventor	Brian N. Tufte
Art Unit	2875
Examiner Name	Ismael Negron
Attorney Docket Number	1076.1101105

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Brian N. Tuft

Confirmation No.: 9075

Serial No. 10/074,356

Examiner: I. Negron

Filing Date: February 12, 2002

Group Art Unit 2875

For: ELONGATED ILLUMINATION DEVICE

Docket: 1076.1101105

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

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By: _____

Lynn Thompson
Lynn Thompson

The Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance accompanying the Notice of Allowability mailed on March 25, 2005 does not appear to be very concise or comprehensive, and thus require some clarification. First, the Examiner states:

Applicant teaches an illumination device having an elongated light source received in a cavity of an elongated member, such member being forcibly inserted into a slot of an elongated carrier. The elongated light source is inserted in the cavity through a slit formed in the elongated member. The slot and the member are adapted so that when the elongated member is in the slot, the carrier forces the slit in the elongated member into a closed, or substantially closed position. The elongated member having a material that is at least partially transparent, and a non-transparent material. The carrier is at least partially deformed to receive the elongated member.

Because many of the claims do not recite all of these features, Applicant believes that the Examiner was merely attempting to summarize the claim set in general, and not with reference to any claim or claims in particular.

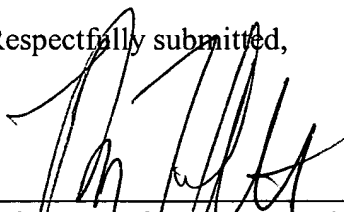
Application No. 10/074,356
Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance
Confirmation No. 9075

In the following paragraph, the Examiner states:

However, applicant argued that the claimed invention's closed or substantially closed slot limitation was not functionally equivalent to the "operationally closed with a gap" slot structure suggested by the combined teachings of Burkitt, III et al. and Bell. The gap, the applicant argued, compromises the structural integrity/strength of the elongated member resulting in reduced protection of the elongated light source. Such arguments were considered meritorious and sufficient to overcome the rejections based on Burkitt, III et al. and Bell.

Applicant would like to point out that many of the claims do not include the "closed or substantially closed" language. In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes that the Examiner did not intend to provide a complete analysis or listing of reasons of why each and every claim is allowable over the prior art. The Examiner did state that claims 1-3, 7-14, 16-24 and 26-50 are allowed over the prior art. Thus, the Examiner must have concluded that the claims as allowed are patentable over the prior art, and not necessarily for only those reasons summarized in the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance. Applicant respectfully request clarification if the Examiner does not agree with these statements.

Respectfully submitted,



Dated: April 15, 2005

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